

ABSTRACT OF DISCLOSURE

A negative electrode of a lithium battery includes a lithium metal and a protective layer that includes a material having an ion conductivity of at least 5×10^{-5} S/cm. The protective layer includes ion conductive material that has a dense internal structure and an effective adhesive strength to the lithium metal. Although the protective layer has a thickness in the order of micrometers, the protective layer does not cause resistance to the electrochemical reaction and is chemically stable with respect to both the lithium metal and the electrolyte.